

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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## —SUBSCRIPTION—

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"THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARALLEL TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY," is the motto of The Progressive Farmer, and upon this platform it shall rise or fall. Serving no master, ruled by no faction, circumscribed by no selfish or narrow policy, its aim will be to foster and promote the best interests of the whole people of the State. It will be true to the instincts, traditions and history of the Anglo-Saxon race. On all matters relating specially to the great interests it represents, it will speak with no uncertain voice, but will fearlessly the right defend and impartially the wrong condemn."—From Col. Polk's Salutatory, Feb. 10, 1886

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is the Official Organ of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance.

When sending your renewal, be sure to give exactly the name on label and postoffice to which the copy of paper you receive is sent.

DISCONTINUANCES—Responsible subscribers will continue to receive this journal until the publishers are notified by letter to discontinue, when all arrears must be paid. If you do not wish the journal continued for another year after your subscription has expired, you should then notify us to discontinue it.

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We invite correspondence, news items, suggestions and criticisms on the subjects of agriculture, poultry raising, stock breeding, dairying, horticulture and gardening, woman's work, literature, or any subject of interest to our lady readers, young people, or the family generally. Public matters, current events, political questions and principles, etc., in short, any subject discussed in an all-around farm and family newspaper. Communications should be free from personalities and party abuse.

Before the end of this year North Carolina should have at least 150 rural free delivery routes instead of 11 as at present; and 500 rural school libraries instead of 104 as at present. "First come, first served."

Tell your neighbor.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Fifty-seven counties of the State report fever cases, and weather conditions favor the spread of many diseases. Parity of water supply and perfect cleanliness of body, dwellings and premises are the best safeguards of health. Give these attention.

The list of Farmers' Bulletins, given July 30th, deserved your attention. Some of them every reading farmer needs, and if you have not yet applied for copies, do so at once. We are reminded of this by the article, "Uncle Sam's Free Library," given in another column.

Our contemporary, the Nashville Graphic, publishes a timely editorial urging the citizens of Nash to demand the establishment of rural free delivery routes. It is in error, however, in the statement that Congress has provided for the establishment of six routes in each county. The number per county is not fixed, but depends upon the needs of the people and their interest in the matter.

The Statesville Mascot reports that "Professor" Michael M. Lipps, Bluff City, Tenn., is endeavoring to sell Iredell farmers "farm rights" to made home-made fertilizers, after the manner of his heretofore reported in The Progressive Farmer. We supposed that this "professor," as he calls himself, would not again seek business in North Carolina after the exposure of his methods made by State Chemist Kilgore last summer. Possibly he is now approaching only the very ignorant farmers, those who do not read The Progressive Farmer or The Bulletin, or come under their influence. It is not necessary to repeat the warning heretofore given our readers.

The Charlotte Observer last Friday began an editorial with this statement: "Within the past nine months five persons have been murdered in and in close proximity to Charlotte and their blood still cries from the ground." Stating further that no reward had been offered for the capture of the murderers, either by city, county, or State, it concluded its editorial with the announcement, made without sear heads or red ink, that it would itself give \$200 reward for the capture of Charles Lyle, who is said to have committed the latest of the series of murders. This action on the part of the Observer has aroused public sentiment in Mecklenburg. One good result of having a live wide-awake newspaper.

## FORWARD PETITIONS AT ONCE.

In the early fall, it is announced, official inspectors of rural free delivery routes will visit different sections of North Carolina. All applications then in hand will be promptly acted upon, while those that are forwarded later will have to wait till the inspectors in making their rounds again reach our State. Let every neighborhood that wishes rural free delivery therefore make known its wishes in the matter by forwarding at once a properly prepared petition for the service. If this is done without delay the matter will have due consideration within a few weeks.

Remember that the appropriation for the present fiscal year, beginning July 1, 1901, is double that of the preceding year. There was never a better time to ask for the establishment of new routes.

## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AT THE A. &amp; M. COLLEGE.

Our A. and M. College is now admirably equipped for training young farmers, and we hope that a large number will take the agricultural course next session. With the heavy appropriation to pay agricultural students for farm work, it will be possible for the more enterprising and industrious of these to cut their expenses in half. We shall indeed be much disappointed if the work of the Board of Agriculture does not result in the increased popularity of the agricultural branch of the College. The Bulletin of the Agricultural Department for July contains an article on this subject, from which we take the following paragraphs:

"The North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts is now in charge of the State Board of Agriculture, which took control June 1st. The board is determined to make the Agricultural Department of this college equal to any in the United States, and to bring its opportunities within reach of every boy in North Carolina, however poor he may be, provided he is moral, energetic, ambitious and capable of receiving an education.

"Besides increasing and strengthening the faculty of the college, the Board of Agriculture has greatly increased the material help whereby agricultural students of small means may work their way through college. It has created 120 agricultural scholarships, solely for agricultural students. Lads desiring these scholarships may write to President Geo. T. Winston, Raleigh, N. C. A scholarship gives free tuition and room rent. The other expenses will be about \$100 a year (including board, clothing, books, etc.). The board has also appropriated \$2,000 to pay for work done by agricultural students. The boys in the A. and M. College earned last year about \$2,500 by various kinds of work. This addition of \$2,000 is intended solely for farm work. It will not be divided out among the agricultural students, but will be paid solely to those that work, in the shape of wages, at so much an hour, cash payment. The work will be precisely the sort of work that is done on the farm—plowing, hauling, tile-laying, feeding stock, milking, cleaning land, running ditches and terraces, repairing machinery and tools, harvesting crops, etc., etc. This money is not in any sense a gratuity. It will be paid as a *quid pro quo*, a fair return for honest labor."

## IN THIS NUMBER—SOME RANDOM COMMENT.

Harry Farmer has the place of honor this week, and he deserves it. Few correspondents are able to pack so many practical suggestions in so little space.

The letters of Messrs. Mason and Edwards, which follow, are also interesting, especially Mr. Edwards' remarks upon "The Cost of Quality." It cannot be too often emphasized that no product below or just equal to the average yields a profit, but every point above the average means money in the pocket of the producer. The man who is satisfied with being merely an average man, producing things of average quality, is doomed to failure. Homely it is, we confess, but hardly in all the realms of literature will the young man find a verse whose spirit will more surely guide him to success than that of this one: "If I were a cobbler, it would be my pride The best of all cobblers to be; If I were a tinker, no tinker beside Should mend an old kettle like me."

In farming, as in all other business, it is quality that counts, and

only that which is above the average has quality.

Mr. Merriam has an article on turnip growing, a crop which no thoughtful farmer will neglect.

The lesson which Mr. Williams, of Kansas, has learned regarding the value of good tillage in drouths is one well worth remembering. Since his article was written, good rains have fallen throughout the "corn belt," assuring, it is said, at least half a crop.

Mr. Samuel Archer has had many years' experience in the business of which he is writing and has kept his eyes open all the while. If our sheep-owning readers are filing away his articles, they are hoarding much valuable information. The series will continue several weeks longer.

Of late much has been said in our columns regarding the corn shredder, and on page 8 we give a column of notes which should interest those who believe in saving the entire corn crop. The inquiries we are receiving indicate that the subject of shredding is receiving considerable attention in North Carolina. And just here we will say that we are always glad to receive inquiries regarding subjects discussed in The Progressive Farmer; bear this in mind.

At the annual picnic of Wilson County Alliance two weeks ago, Editor Bailey, of the Raleigh Biblical Recorder, delivered a thoughtful address, on "The Rise of the Farmers' Alliance," which we are printing on page 6 of this issue. It will interest all that have studied the problem he discusses.

Dr. R. H. Lewis furnishes a paper on "Mosquitoes and Malaria." From time to time we expect other health articles from his pen, a study of which will undoubtedly enable readers to wage more intelligent and effective warfare against preventable diseases.

## HOW TO STOP LYNCHINGS.

By far the best answer to this vexing problem that has ever come under our notice is that given in our General News columns this week under the title, "Found Guilty in Forty minutes."

Nothing will do so much to discourage lynch law as the speedy trial and punishment of the guilty by process of law—in fact, no other remedy is worthy of consideration. Gov. Candler in this particular has set an example worthy of the emulation of all executives.

## REPORT OF THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION.

The fourth annual report of the National Live Stock Association, comprising the proceedings of the annual convention at Salt Lake City, Utah, last January, and the work of the Association for last year, has just been issued and is being distributed to the members of the Association. Each delegate receives a copy of the report, and it will be sent to any stockman in the country who will send 25 cents to Charles F. Martin, Secretary, 211 Quincy Building, Denver, Colorado, to pay postage. The book is handsomely bound in silk cloth and consists of about 550 pages on handsome plate paper, illustrated with portraits of those who took part in the last great convention, and containing the valuable papers delivered, as well as the verbatim report of the interesting discussions. There are at least three books which every intelligent stockman should regard as indispensable. He should have the "Year Book" of the Department of Agriculture, the annual report of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and add to these the annual report of the National Live Stock Association, and the library is a good one. The two Washington reports convey fully all the work being done by the government, and the National Association report shows what the stockmen are doing for themselves. If these annual reports were all that the stockmen got for their membership in the National Association, they might consider themselves well repaid for the outlay. In some respects the last publication of the National Association is the most interesting of any yet sent out. Those who have had a mixed understanding of the work being done by the Association should read the fourth annual report and be enlightened. We still hope that a North Carolina branch of this great organization will be eventually organized.

That was a very thoughtful article by Dr. J. B. Alexander published on page 6 of our last issue. Dr. Alexander's letters are invariably interesting and instructive.

## FARMING AND OTHER MATTERS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF EARTH.

Editorial Correspondence Progressive Farmer. Here am I, back on American soil again, and thinking of times past in exile me to write you a few lines tonight. Many strange sights for a North Carolina farmer have I seen in the Orient. But nowhere could I stop and find out the reason for many things as I would have liked, and as would make a letter interesting for Progressive Farmer readers. This was because first, my tongue and those of the farmers whom I needed to talk with at first hand to really learn any facts were foreign to each other, and, second, my time was nearly all demanded for the work in hand.

Human labor is held in light esteem in the Orient. It is cheap. This may be taken in a double sense. It costs but little for a given time. It is hedged about with superstition and ancestor worship and does things in time-honored ways and accomplishes little at sacrifice of much strength. So to look at things from an American standpoint labor is really dear at almost any price and machines cannot yet be used to supplement it because of prejudice and by reason of the fact that machinery brings changes from the established order of things.

Did I not write you once about Japan and the small terraced plots—one cannot call them fields—on the steep hillsides? My stay in China was at seaport towns with less time and further from any chance to see the farmers than was afforded in Japan. Indeed, China is a very large country and to be able to say much about its agriculture would mean to have spent some years traveling in its different provinces, if one were to give information derived at first hand.

There was an attempt just before the Boxer uprising to establish an agricultural college and experiment station in China something after the lead of Japan. A young American scientist contracted for a five-year term and put a plant in operation to do agricultural work by machinery. There was little accomplished and the matter was dropped.

At Manila, where my longest stay was made, I am free to confess my impressions were not the most favorable for the natives or the citizens who have adopted the place for business. One can depend on his own efforts to accomplish anything there, but it is not the usual way, and what we would expect to accomplish at home in a day may drag over a week easily. As an example of altruism we can get off well by turning the islands free to self-government at the earliest moment when they can be safely trusted under a protectorate.

The city of Manila needs American banks and a few Americans of large interests to take over some of the business now being done by Europeans who are enriching themselves on American lavish expenditures. One thing Americans who contemplate going to the Philippines need to know. That is that when they are not sure about the water, it should be boiled, (and under their own eyes, too,) and that when boiled even the reputed bad water is a thousand times safer and better in that hot trying climate than the strong alcoholic drinks our citizens are trying to exhaust faster than they can be replenished by ships. There probably is about the same amount of liquors consumed as under Spanish rule, but approximately two-thirds of the lighter kinds seem to have given place to very much stronger sorts.

The civilian government which went into effect July 4th was hailed with delight by the press, which felt as though it had been living under its breath and that American license of speech had been very much curtailed by the Military Government. The school teacher has been getting abroad in the land down there and already the Filipino prodigy in acquiring a fair working knowledge of English is being taken around to show what is being and can be done in that line.

A few of the pessimists seem to see very great drawbacks in the court language being continued in Spanish for five years. It may not meet the approval of all the Americans, but most of them can, by applying a bit of Charles Reade's doctrine, apply the conditions in imagination to themselves and then agree that the authorities have acted wisely in this matter and have done quite right to let the Filipino lawyers come gradually under the civilizing influence of our mother tongue.

F. E. E.

## The Thinkers.

## UNCLE SAM'S FREE LIBRARY.

It was the writer's fortune a few years ago to be a member of a surveying party engaged in locating the line of a new railway through an ordinary agricultural community. We boarded with the farmers along the line, some times remaining a week or more at one house. It was seldom that we lodged at any place which afforded much reading matter. The local newspaper and the family Bible were generally in evidence, and I will confess that I never in my life searched the Scriptures so diligently as I did on that trip.

For one never-to-be-forgotten week I was confined to a farm house with a sprained ankle, and experienced all the pangs of literary hunger. After I had exhausted the contents of a file of alleged literary papers published in Maine I chanced to notice a case well filled with "Agricultural Reports." The black binding and gilt lettering were very familiar to me, as they had been annual visitors to my father's house through the courtesy of the Congressman from our district. But as our home was well supplied with books, I seldom opened one of the reports. Being fairly gorged with the very light literature of the Maine variety, I took down one of the volumes, resolved to absorb its contents as a counter-irritant to the love-laden pabulum I had been indulging in. The first article that attracted my attention was one detailing the history of the trotting horse in America, which was written in so enterprising a style by a writer apparently well versed in his subject that I read it a second time. I read several others of the once-despised volumes during the days that followed, and found that they contained much information that was valuable to one interested in scientific farming.

An article in one of the reports on mushrooms—something I was always interested in—so caught my fancy that I resolved to procure the volume containing it, and a monograph on the same subject referred to in the article. When I returned home I met our Congressman and asked him to have the publications sent to my address if he thought they were still in print. He informed me that it was not only possible to have that particular volume and pamphlet sent me, but also many of those which had been printed for years back, as well as many interesting and instructive reports and bulletins issued by various departments of the government. There are, he informed me, thousands of volumes of valuable documents which had been printed at great expense midwinding in the basements of the public buildings at Washington. The reason he assigned for this was that the people are under the impression that these publications are obtainable only through Senators and Representatives, who bestow them upon a favored few. While members of Congress always cheerfully order them sent to their constituents when requested, yet many of them can be secured just as readily by writing directly to the Secretary of Agriculture for those pertaining to his department, and to the heads of bureaus having charge of the publication and distribution of reports and documents of any other character.

Following the advice of the Congressman, I wrote the Secretary of Agriculture, and after a few days volumes came dropping into the postoffice to my address, and continued until I had a library that would be a "well spring of pleasure" in some bookless farm home whose owner did not feel able to invest in books that would keep him informed of the progress that agriculture was making.

Determined that his sons of the soil should be provided with the best thought of the world in solving many problems of farming, Uncle Sam has employed an army of scientists and practical agriculturists to investigate and experiment and embody their researches in a series of helpful little books called "Farmers' Bulletins."

The corps of writers employed in this work comprise among their number leading botanists, statisticians, weather experts, veterinarians, naturalists, entomologists, and specialists in every branch of farming and stock raising. The subjects cover all phases of rural and domestic economy. Among some of the treatises are those on "Potato Diseases," "Feeding Farm Animals,"

"Kaffir corn; Characteristics, Culture and Use," "Farm Drainage," "Facts About Milk," "Fish as Food," "Irrigation in Humid Climates," which will give some idea of the variety of subjects treated. The farmer's wife has not been neglected, as several of the little books are devoted to cooking, butter-making on the farm, poultry raising and kindred themes.

Those who are interested in progressive farming should secure copies of such bulletins as are adapted to their particular locality, as they contain up-to-date information.

Many bookless homes that have a family of young people with hungry, inquiring minds would be made happy by the receipt of these magnificent gifts of a liberal government, and their perusal would give the vocation of farming additional interest.

The officials in charge of the publication and distribution of these books and bulletins are always pleased to receive requests for them, as the demand is an indication that their effort to spread agricultural knowledge is known and appreciated. —Jay-Em-See, in Farm and Fireside.

## RESULTS OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

The following figures, giving the per centage of illiterates over ten years of age in ten Southern States and the per centage in ten Northern and Western States where compulsory education is in vogue, is a clincher in favor of the adoption of some measure to enforce the regular attendance of children at school.

In ten of the States having compulsory education, the per centage of illiterates is as follows:

New Hampshire.....	1.5
Massachusetts.....	0.8
Connecticut.....	1.0
Minnesota.....	1.4
Iowa.....	1.4
South Dakota.....	1.2
Nebraska.....	1.3
Nevada.....	0.8
Washington.....	1.3
Montana.....	1.6

The per centage of illiterates in the Southern States given below, where personal liberty (even if it means ignorance) is held as being more sacred than intelligence, is sufficient to make one's cheeks burn with shame. Read it, and while blushing, resolve to encourage every measure that will tend to advance education in the Old North State:

North Carolina.....	23.0
Louisiana.....	20.3
South Carolina.....	18.1
Alabama.....	18.4
Tennessee.....	18.0
Georgia.....	16.5
Arkansas.....	16.6
Virginia.....	14.0
Mississippi.....	11.9
Florida.....	11.3

—Mt. Olive Advertiser.

## POOR JOHN BULL.

For the first time in many years, Great Britain's balance is on the wrong side of the ledger, and the farther we get from the revelations of the budget-speech, the more grumbling we hear of the war taxes. The cost of the Boer War has been fearful. In two years, or less, it has increased the national debt more than it was increased in seven years in the war of the American Revolution. The debt of England was increased by the Napoleonic wars from \$1,215,317,105 to \$4,305,195,245, or nearly quadrupled. Then there was peace for forty years, and nearly \$380,000,000 of the debt was paid off. Then came the Crimean War, in 1854, and the debt was increased by \$105,000,000. From 1857, the end of the Crimean War, until the Boer War, more than \$1,000,000,000 of the debt was paid, and already more than \$500,000,000 are added. The war had cost up to April 1, the beginning of the new fiscal year, more than \$700,000,000. And so, as we understood at the outset would be the case, the song of the concert halls of London, at the breaking out of the war,—"Pay, pay, pay,"—has had to be realized. The investors took the new loan readily enough for they made money out of England's need for ready funds. But taxpayers, who were called upon for \$55,000,000 more, still grumble, grumble louder than they did at the beginning. The Scotchman, who make so much money on marmalade, object to the duty on sugar; the Englishmen, who make assorted wafers, denounce the tax on glucose; the owners of collieries, and the miners, protest against the export tax on coal. Every body is crying out against the rise in the income tax. Before the Boer War, this tax was eight pence in the pound; then, after the war broke out, it was made a shilling; and now the government wants fourteen pence, nearly double the old rate. Success Magazine.